

Appl. No. : 10/659,698
Filed : September 11, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the title with the following amended title:

Antibacterial therapy with bacteriophage physico-chemically altered by PEGylation
to delay inactivation by the host defense system

Please replace the paragraph on page 1 lines 6-23 with the following amended paragraph:

The present invention relates to a method of delaying the inactivation of bacteriophages by an animal's host defense system (HDS). One method of delaying inactivation is the use of novel bacteriophages whose genomes have been modified. The modification of bacteriophage genomes for the purpose of delaying inactivation is described in U.S. patent application Ser. No. [[____]] 08/222,954 entitled "Antibacterial Therapy with Bacteriophage Genotypically Modified to Delay Inactivation by the Host Defense System", filed on [[____]] April 5, 1994, the disclosure of which is herein incorporated by reference into the present specification. The present invention is directed to making a phenotypic change by attaching a polymer to phage surface proteins (i.e. physico-chemically altering the bacteriophage). Such polymers block or mask the phage antigenic sites from interactions with the HDS. This masking enables the altered bacteriophage to remain in the circulation and in the tissues longer than the unmodified phage. Thus, the altered bacteriophage is more effective at treating (or assisting in the treatment of) a bacterial infection, in a human or other animal.